



# **Town of Clarkson Office of the Supervisor Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan**

## **Appendix B –3T**

### **Hazard Specific Analysis: Fire**

#### **Definition:**

“Self-sustaining, rapid oxidation of material resulting in the release of energy in the form of heat and light.”<sup>1</sup>

#### **Description:**

“For the purpose of calling a fire major, the incident should meet any or all of the following criteria:

- ?? Multiple loss of life
- ?? \$1,000,000 of property damage
- ?? Major community impact, such as destruction of the major industry or employer in the community.”<sup>2</sup>

Any fire is serious regardless of scale, and this hazard occurs more than any other in Monroe County. The 3 because major fires as described above are rare.

#### **Overview of specific hazard locations and the extent of the hazard:**

Fires can occur anywhere, but increased hazard exists in locations that are industrial, have substantial combustible material and/or hazardous materials on site. significant property. The extent of hazard is largely dependent on structure, location, response and suppression capabilities.

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1 NYS OFPC Fire Investigation Manual / Training

2 HAZNY

## Previous occurrences of the hazard:

All previous occurrences are too numerous to list in detail. Significant events have occurred within the Town of Clarkson and every fire fighting jurisdiction within Monroe County. Two events have prompted activation of the Emergency Operations Center:

October 16, 1994	3-Alarm Fire, City of Rochester
June 19, 2001	Mill Seat Landfill Fire

Since the formalization of the County's Fire Mutual-Aid Plan, mutual aid calls average 75-100 per year.<sup>3</sup>

Major fires have been the catalyst for significant cultural changes within the Town Of Clarkson and Monroe County's fire fighting community. Examples are:

- ?? the initiation of a mutual-aid system that was institutionalized within Monroe County and subsequently adopted as statute by the New York State Legislature
- ?? standardization of fire fighter training for volunteers and paid staff, with the inclusion of industrial departments/brigades
- ?? initiation of special operations teams
- ?? standardized public safety communication system
- ?? centralization of alarm calls and dispatch even before the inception of 911
- ?? a fire prevention program that became a model for a state-wide program
- ?? support for an increase in the Volunteer Firefighter's Benefit Law

## Probability of future occurrences and potential magnitude:

Fires will continue to occur on some level on a consistent basis. The magnitude potential depends on a number of different factors in residential and commercial structures such as, but not limited to:

- ?? Structural age, architectural design, type of construction and materials used
- ?? Building code compliance and safety inspections
- ?? Use or non-use of fire detection (ie: smoke detectors) and/or fire suppression features (ie: sprinkler/standpipe systems)
- ?? Safety and evacuation plans
- ?? Fire prevention and education

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<sup>3</sup> Monroe County Fire Bureau

**Maps of hazard areas:**

Map is not required due to widespread geographic potential

**Analysis of the impact on business, infrastructure & critical facilities:**

Impact on business, infrastructure and critical facilities can be major in a worst case scenario leading to losses of business due to closings, water supply if it is contaminated, and/or air contamination. The Village of Honeoye Falls lost its water supply when it was contaminated with run-off from a fire. Critical facilities, like hospital Emergency Departments, may be overwhelmed from an influx of fire victims.

**Specific information concerning estimated value (\$) of potential loss, damage to structures, casualties, etc:**

Fires pose a serious life safety threat not only to civilians, industry and business, but to response personnel as well. Monetary loss is observed in terms of:

- ?? Health care costs
- ?? Rehabilitation
- ?? Temporary or permanent disability
- ?? Increased insurance rates
- ?? Temporary housing
- ?? Structural damage

**Notes on data limitations:   None**

Note:   Additional data is available in the “Monroe County Fire Bureau’s Annual Report.”